with various countries and are reviewed from time to time as part of an ongoing process depending on traffic demand, balance of benefit to our carriers, overall interest of national economy and diplomatic/political considerations. Although no specific packages have been identified, as part of the ongoing process, bilateral air services consultations on traffic rights have recently been held with USA, China, UK, France, Mauritius, UAE, Australia etc. and additional capacity has been agreed to for operation of air services between India and those countries. Revised/new Air Services Agreements have also been signed/initialed with USA, Australia, Tunisia, Brazil and Qatar over the last couple of years. Bilateral consultations with Germany are yet to be held.

(d) to (f) India has so far entered into bilateral Air Services Agreements with 100 countries. In order to promote international connectivity out of India, traffic rights are being exchanged liberally with most countries having significant point-to-point traffic with India on continuous basis. Though we do not have an open sky regime, liberal exchange of traffic rights has helped in adding capacity on international routes on one hand and has opened up commercial opportunities for our airlines on the other. Due to increased connectivity and competition, tariff reduction on international sector is also expected. Liberalization in international services will benefit the national economy as a whole and tourism, trade/commerce in particular.

Share of plan budget of ministries and departments for development of North Eastern Region

*454. SHRI T.R. ZELIANG: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether as envisaged by Government all Ministries and Departments have allocated 10 per cent of their Plan Budget during 2004-05 for development of North-Eastern Region;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the amount, department-wise; and

(c) if not, which are the defaulting departments and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b) Ministry/Department-wise details of the lumpsum provision made by them in RE 2004-05 for projects/ schemes for benefit of North Eastern Areas and Sikkim are as given below:—

(Rs. in crore)

Sl. No.	Ministries/ Department	Plan (RE) 2004-05 Projects (EAP)*	Externally Aided	Net (GBS-EAP)	Allocation North	% of Total for Allocation East
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Agriculture & Cooperation	2945.00		2945.00	294.50	10.00
2.	Agricultural Research & Education	900.00		900.00	90.00	10.00
3.	Animal Husbandry & Dairying	575.00		575.00	57.50	10.00
4.	Agro and Rural Industries	700.00		700.00	70.00	10.00
5.	Chemicals & Petro Chemicals	60.00		60.00	6.00	10.00
6.	Fertilizers	97.26		97.26	14.00	14.39
7.	Civil Aviation	50.00		50.00	5.00	10.00
8.	Coal	210.00		210.00	21.00	10.00
9.	Mines	215.00	1.50	213.50	18.05	8.45
10.	Commerce	950.00		950.00	107.22	11.29
11.	Industry Policy & Promotion	400.00		400.00	40.00	10.00
12.	Posts	190.57		190.57	10.12	5.31
13.	Telecommunications	292.54		292.54	0.00	0.00
14.	Information Technology	650.00		650.00	75.00	11.54
15.	Consumer Affairs	18.25		18.25	1.98	10.85
16.	Food & Public Distribution	48.64		48.64	4.86	10.00
17.	Culture	336.00		336.00	33.60	10.00
18.	Environment & Forests	1050.00		1050.00	105.00	10.00
19.	Food Processing Industries	85.00		85.00	8.50	10.00
20.	Health	2177.00		2177.00	220.00	10.11
21.	AYUSH	200.00		200.00	20.00	10.00
22.	Family Welfare	5300.00		5300.00	530.00	10.00
23.	Heavy Industry	100.00		100.00	10.00	10.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
24.	Public Enterprises	26.50		26.50	3.00	11.32
25.	Home Affairs (Police)	271.80		271.80	30.00	11.04
26.	Home Affairs (Other Exp. of MHA)	6.40		6.40	0.64	10.00
27.	Elementary Education & Literacy	8000.00	2583.45	5416.55	541.65	10.00
28.	Secondary Education & Higher Education	2224.15	100.00	2124.15	214.67	10.11
29.	Women & Child Development	2400.00		2400.00	240.00	10.00
30.	Information & Broadcasting	250.00		250.00	52.63	21.05
31.	Labour and Employment	165.00		165.00	17.00	10.30
32.	Law and Justice	110.00		110.00	11.00	10.00
33.	Non-Conventional Energy Sources	400.00		400.00	40.00	10.00
34.	Panchayati Raj	10.00		10.00	1.00	10.00
35.	Power	3400.00		2400.00	803.49	33.48
36.	Rural Development	13866.40		13866.40	1386.64	10.00
37.	Land Resources	1050.00		1050.00	125.00	11.90
38.	Drinking Water Supply	3300.00		3300.00	330.00	10.00
39.	Shipping	300.00		300.00	42.50	14.17
40.	Road Transport & Highways	5898.00	2030.00	3868.00	264.70	6.84
41.	Small Scale Industries	362.25		362.25	37.12	10.25
42.	Social Justice & Empowerment**	1350.00	0.30	1349.70	57.48	4.26
43.	Statistics & Prog. Implementation	86.00		85.00	8.50	10.00
44.	Textiles	750.00		750.00	75.00	10.00
45.	Tourism	500.00		500.00	50.00	10.00
46.	Tribal Affairs	242.45		242.45	25.25	10.41
47.	Urban Development	1900.00	780.00	1120.00	114.50	10.22

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
48.	Urban Employment & Poverty Alleviation	650.00		650.00	83.00	12.77
49.	Water Resources	435.00		435.00	43.50	10.00
50.	Youth Affairs & Sports	375.00		375.00	37.50	10.00

* The 10% provision is exclusive of EAP component.

** The Ministry is required to earmark 2% of the budget of its Scheduled Caste Division for NER. The 10% norm is applicable to other programmes of the Ministry.

(c) It would be observed from the above that in the cases of Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, Department of Mines, Department of Posts and Department of Telecommunications there is under provisioning/non-provisioning of 10 per cent of their Plan Budget for NER in RE 2004-05. The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways have made provision for NER by excluding cess component for NHDP in addition to EAP component. In respect of Department of Mines, loss making PSUs and others who have no activities in NER and Sikkim were exempted from earmarking 10% by the Planning Commission. In respect of Department of Post, less than 10% provision of total Plan Outlay for NER has been made because computerization is the focus of the Plan programme and the major Post Offices and administrative' offices in the NER have already been covered in the previous years. In respect of Department of Telecommunications, the NE component of Rs.500 crore is reflected in the Plan Outlay of BSNL. The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment has not fully provided 2% of the provision of Rs.864.30 crore for its SC Division in the lumpsum provision for NER on the plea that SC community does not exist in NER. However, they have fully provided 10% of the remaining provision of Rs.485.70 crore meant for the other programmes as decided by Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region.

Harassment of export units by the Income Tax Department

*455. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether many small and medium export units are on the verge of closure due to harassment by Income Tax Authorities on account of tax